

## **MINUTES OF BICKERSTAFFE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2008**

### **Parish Councillors present**

Hilary Rosbotham (Chairman), Albert Webster (Vice Chairman), Jennifer Currie, Kathleen Fairhurst, Gladys Gardiner, Margaret Sumner, Philippa Tubb and Linda Webster.

### **Also present:-**

Paul Andrews (representing Bickerstaffe Football Club) and two members of the public.

### **1. Apologies**

No apologies received.

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

- (i) No Cllrs. reported a change to their respective Register of Interests.
- (ii) No Cllrs. reported any personal interests in any item on the agenda.
- (iii) Cllrs Philippa Tubb and Linda Webster reported a prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 (ii) and Cllrs Kathleen Fairhurst and Hilary Rosbotham reported a prejudicial interest in agenda item 8 (iii).

### **3. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 08 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **4. Public Participation**

Cllrs. resolved an adjournment of the meeting.

Mr Paul Andrews, representing Bickerstaffe Football Club, reported an up-date on the positioning of a storage container on the parish field pending approval being secured from West Lancashire District Council. He also mentioned the location of two trees which would have an impact on the positioning of the storage container. The Chairman reconvened the meeting to enable Cllrs. to consider the issue raised by Mr Andrews and it was resolved that the two trees in question could be cut down with the proviso that as and when the container was removed two replacement trees would be planted.

### **5. Clerk's Progress Report for Information**

The Chairman and Clerk commented on the report which had been circulated to Cllrs. prior to the meeting.

### **6. Quality Parish Council Status**

The Clerk tabled a paper which provided a summary of his verbal report. Cllrs. acknowledged the work being undertaken by the Clerk and it was resolved that the Clerk should work towards submitting the portfolio by the end of June 2008.

### **7. Planning**

- (i) The Clerk reported on the delegated decisions in respect of the following applications :-
  - 2 Moss Side Cottages, Coal Pit Lane for a part two storey/part single storey extension to front side and rear; no comments submitted to WLDC.
  - High Farm Cottage, High Lane for an agricultural workshop and storage building; no comments submitted to WLDC.
  - Bickerstaffe Association Football Club, Hall Lane for the siting of a metal container for the storage of sports equipment; no objections were made to WLDC.

- (ii)- 10 Barrow Nook Lane, Bickerstaffe for a first floor rear extension. It was resolved not to make any comments to WLDC.
- Bickerstaffe Children's Services Ltd for the erection at Bickerstaffe Primary School, Hall Lane, Bickerstaffe of a single storey building to provide nursery and pre-school educational facilities, use for pre and after school clubs, community area and interview or meeting places for community groups. It was resolved not to make any comments to WLDC.

## **8. Finance**

- (i) Resolved to approve the bank reconciliation report for the period ending 29<sup>th</sup> February 2008.
- (ii) Resolved to approve the payment of £80 to the Four Lane Ends Mission for accommodating parish council meetings.
- (iii) Resolved to approve a donation of £100 to the Bickerstaffe Pensioners Social Fund.
- (iv) Following a report from the Clerk, Cllrs. noted the appointment of the external auditor for 2007/2008 and that the annual fee would be £135.

At this point the Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow Mr Paul Andrews, representing Bickerstaffe Football Club, to report that the football club were to make a donation to £100 to the Bickerstaffe Pensioners Social Fund. The Chairman thanked Mr Andrews for the donation and reconvened the meeting.

## **9. Parish Field**

- (i) It was resolved to approve the usage of the parish field car park by Merseyside Wheelers during May, June, and July at a charge of £5 per visit.
- (ii) Following a discussion concerning the spraying of the hedgerow along Hall Lane it was proposed by Cllr.Tubb and seconded by Cllr.Linda Webster to have a vote on whether the spraying should continue. The vote resulted in 5 Cllrs. voting to re-commence the spraying of the hedgerow in question and 3 Cllrs. voting against. The Chairman agreed to inform the contractor of the decision to re-commence the spraying. It was also resolved to plant additional hedging and Cllr.Albert Webster agreed to make the necessary arrangements.

## **10. War Memorial**

Following a lengthy discussion it was resolved to note the response from Banks Timber Buildings Direct Ltd. and for the Clerk to make contact with WLDC to seek their guidance with regard to the respective scheme of work and to prepare a report for consideration at the next meeting.

## **11. Parish Field Car Park Extension**

Following a lengthy discussion it was resolved (i) not to make any decision with regard to a designated contractor and (ii) to discuss at the next meeting a projected expenditure profile over 5 year period focussing on an improvement and enhancement programme of facilities within the parish.

## **12. Bus Shelter at Stockley Crescent**

- (i) Cllrs. received a verbal report from Cllrs Kathleen Fairhurst and Gladys Gardiner following the surgery held at the Stockley Crescent Meeting Room on 11<sup>th</sup> February 08. A total of 7 parishioners attended the surgery.
- (ii) It was resolved to include the potential provision of an additional bus shelter in the proposed five year projected expenditure profile.

- (iii) It was resolved for the problem concerning the positioning of drop kerbs should be reported to Lancashire County Council.
- (iv) It was resolved that the range of issues raised over the accommodation and facilities at the Stockley Crescent sheltered accommodation to be reported to WLDC.
- (v) The Clerk reported that the request for a 'elderly persons' warning sign to be erected at either side of the approach to Stockley Crescent along Church Road had been referred to Lancs County Council (reference 328286).

### **13. Correspondence for Information**

The Clerk made reference to the circulated list of items of correspondence which were available for inspection at the meeting. It was resolved that Cllrs Gladys Gardiner and Margaret Sumner would attend the WLDC Chairmans 'At Home' event. Also Cllrs. voted on the parish council representatives who had put their names forward for membership of the West Lancashire Standards Board.

### **14. Colne to Skipton Railway**

It was resolved to support the campaign to re-open the Skipton to Colne railway line.

### **15. Lancashire County Council – Development of a Parish Charter**

It was resolved to support the initiative. However the parish council were unable to have any representation at the proposed seminar to be held on 12.4.08.

### **16. Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

The Chairman invited Cllrs. to comment and the Clerk noted matters in relation to a street light in Skelmersdale Road not working and refuse collection problems in the vicinity of Liverpool Road and Heyescroft. It was resolved that traffic and safety problem along Lathom Road should be included as an agenda item for the next meeting. Cllrs. also received a report from the designated Cllr. who attends the Area Committee.

### **17. Date of Next Meeting**

The Chairman confirmed that the next meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008 would be the Annual Meeting which would be preceded by the Annual Assembly. The Annual Assembly would commence at 7.30pm followed by the Annual Meeting at 8.00pm.